

## **Claims**

What is claimed is:

- 1) A method for locating a kidnapped or missing person comprising the following steps:
  - a) Providing apparatus which comprises an internet accessible database;
  - b) Registering a plurality of users to input information on a plurality of persons into the database;
  - c) Inputting identification and location information on the plurality of persons into the database for retrieval at a later date;
  - d) Providing telephone means for activating the apparatus to assist in locating the kidnapped or missing person;
  - e) Activating the apparatus by telephone means from a first registered user who is reporting the kidnapped or missing person to assist in locating the person;
  - f) Determining the location of the first registered user;
  - g) Broadcasting an alarm to a plurality of other registered users in a geographic area in a specific proximity of the first registered user wherein the alarm will contain stored identification and location information on the kidnapped or missing person;
  - h) Providing means for the plurality of other users to report back to the apparatus a sighting of the kidnapped or missing person; and
  - i) Providing means for disseminating the sighting information to the first registered users and to law enforcement authorities.

2) An apparatus for use in locating a kidnapped or missing person comprising:

- a) An internet web server comprising a database adapted to store identification and location information for a plurality of persons and a plurality of registered users;
- b) Means for activating the apparatus through a telephone input from a first registered user;
- c) Means for determining the location of the first registered user;
- d) Means for broadcasting an alarm to a plurality of other registered users who are located within a specific geographic proximity to the first registered user wherein such alarm includes identification and location information on the kidnapped or missing person;
- e) Means for the other registered users to report back to the apparatus a sighting of the kidnapped or missing person; and
- f) Means for discriminating the sighting information to the first registered user or to law enforcement authorities.